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International trade and development

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

After the report of the Secretary-General on international trade and development (A/66/185), issued on 25 July 2011, had been submitted to conference services, new data on cotton subsidies were notified (in mid-October) to the World Trade Organization by some of its members. For example, the latest figures of the World Trade Organization show that in 2008, the aggregate measurements of support of both the United States of America and China ($1,129.96 million and $398.17 million, respectively) had been significantly lower than the figures reported by the International Cotton Advisory Committee ($3,238 million and $1,802 million, respectively). Different methodologies for measuring support are utilized by the Advisory Committee and the World Trade Organization. The Advisory Committee includes direct support to production, minimum market price support, and border protection. In contrast, the World Trade Organization definition of the product-specific aggregate measurement of support is narrower: for example, it does not include, inter alia, border protection. The Advisory Committee support figures therefore tend to be higher than the figures for the aggregate measurement of support notified to the World Trade Organization.

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